



MI-CW3810

Michigan Crop Weather

September 20, 2010

Fall Harvest Continues with Cool and Wet Weather

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending September 19, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 1.28 inches to 1.56 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 0.58 inches to 1.62 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures ranged from 2 to 5 degrees below normal. Fall harvest and fieldwork continued across many crops between the rainfalls this week. One reporter in southeast Lower Peninsula stated, "It will be a mixed harvest this year as operators have started to harvest earlier than normal. In one month, producers will have a hard time deciding which crop to harvest first. I have never seen this before, especially having corn ready for harvest before soybeans." Another producer in the east central Lower Peninsula also stated, "It was quite a sight on Wednesday, September 15th. Dry beans, soybeans, corn and sugarbeets were being harvested, and wheat was being planted all on the same day. This usually does not happen."

Field Crops

Grain crops continued to mature ahead of normal across the state, although rain showers slowed harvest progress two days during the week. **Corn** harvest for grain occurred on a steady basis in southern counties while high moisture harvest started in the central area of the state. Uneven drydown resulted in little grain harvest being accomplished in the Thumb as silage harvest wrapped up. **Soybeans** were also harvested in southern counties. Corn and soybeans were maturing around the same time putting farmers in a dilemma as to which crop to harvest first. Farmers were anxious to plant winter wheat. Seedings were accomplished as far north as Lapeer County. **Alfalfa** was too short to make another cutting. The rain during the week helped alfalfa conditions. Rain showers improved sugarbeet field conditions. Harvest of the crop continued on a limited basis. It has still been too warm to begin piling.

Soil moisture for week ending 09/19/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	7	17	68	8
Subsoil	7	30	60	3

Crop condition for week ending 09/19/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	5	26	52	16
Corn	3	7	18	47	25
Dry beans	4	12	28	40	16
Pasture	2	14	30	46	8
Soybeans	2	6	24	47	21

Fruit

Apple harvest continued. McIntosh and Gala harvests neared completion. Empire, Jonathan, and Golden Delicious harvesting was underway. Color development was aided by cooler temperatures in the Grand Rapids area. Winds in the northwest continued to cause ripening fruit to drop off in some blocks. Harvest of **peaches** was winding down in the southwest. **Pear** harvest continued across the state; harvest has ended in the southeast. Harvest of early varieties of **grapes** continued. Grape berry moth continued to be a problem in the northwest and southwest. Harvest of fall **raspberries** continued.

Vegetables

Growers continued to remove stakes and black plastic in preparation for planting of fall cover crops. Thus far, crops have not been impacted by frost. Crops harvested included: **broccoli, pumpkins, gourds, hard squash, carrots, onions, winter squash, cabbage, yellow squash, celery, zucchini** for fresh and processing, **cucumbers for pickles, sweet corn, potatoes, snap beans, peppers, watermelon, tomatoes** for fresh and processing, **eggplant, radishes, and leeks**. In the southwest, pepper growers were combating broad mites. This pest was new to the area. Processing carrots were harvesting earlier than normal due to heavy foliar disease pressure in Oceana County. In the southeast, harvest of potatoes to be stored for later sales had not begun due to warm soil temperatures. Pumpkins appeared to be smaller than average and fruit set was also below average in the southeast. In the Grand Haven area, growers had some rotting problems in pumpkins.

Crop progress for week ending 09/19/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, third cutting	82	66	66	79
All hay, fourth cutting	40	27	25	25
Apples, harvested	47	35	21	26
Corn, dent	98	94	61	85
Corn, mature	75	60	9	39
Corn, harvested	13	4	0	2
Corn silage, harvested	88	76	13	58
Dry beans, dropping leaves	96	85	64	83
Dry beans, harvested	64	44	19	34
Potatoes, harvested	27	26	35	38
Soybeans, turning leaves	92	79	60	79
Soybeans, dropping leaves	66	38	20	46
Soybeans, harvested	5	1	0	3
Sugarbeets, harvested	16	11	3	2
Winter wheat, planted	8	2	7	8

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/19/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	61	32		2,136	1,731		1.13	2.18	3.58	22.07		
Marquette	62	33		2,078	1,607		1.60	2.58	3.57	22.22		
Stephenson	70	32		2,436	1,966		1.13	1.87	3.84	21.71		
Western UP	70	29	-4	2,141	1,682	1,841	1.56	2.68	4.07	22.35	18.70	3.58
Cornell	64	34		2,305	1,820		1.22	2.74	3.96	20.38		
Sault St Marie	62	38		2,187	1,620		1.01	2.69	5.35	18.26		
Eastern UP	64	33	-4	2,115	1,608	1,628	1.28	2.85	5.76	22.13	17.52	3.55
Beulah	69	40		2,569	2,014		0.64	1.29	2.84	18.06		
Lake City	67	33		2,405	1,916		1.08	1.89	3.86	23.36		
Old Mission	69	40		2,464	1,904		0.85	1.57	2.79	18.56		
Pellston	67	31		2,322	1,790		1.28	2.16	4.26	20.87		
Northwest	69	31	-4	2,394	1,857	2,095	0.79	1.42	2.95	18.22	16.54	3.66
Alpena	69	33		2,391	1,900		0.63	1.26	1.57	18.65		
Houghton Lake	70	31		2,529	1,932		1.03	1.58	2.65	18.67		
Rogers City	67	36		2,253	1,862		0.67	1.29	1.77	22.24		
Northeast	72	31	-5	2,420	1,889	2,028	0.92	1.46	2.16	20.50	16.52	3.47
Fremont	72	42		2,729	2,188		1.23	2.16	4.17	15.46		
Hart	70	42		2,630	2,069		0.30	1.13	2.82	19.46		
Muskegon	74	48		3,020	2,376		1.15	2.07	5.64	20.41		
West Central	74	37	-3	2,737	2,171	2,287	0.93	1.93	4.03	18.67	16.81	3.19
Alma	75	42		2,807	2,234		0.68	1.34	1.96	21.36		
Big Rapids	74	39		2,624	2,061		0.50	1.30	2.60	20.92		
Central	75	39	-3	2,708	2,143	2,360	0.58	1.25	2.19	18.45	17.63	3.09
Bad Axe	74	41		2,687	2,086		0.91	1.32	2.84	20.15		
Pigeon	74	39		2,643	2,047		0.69	1.06	1.63	15.53		
Saginaw	75	42		2,944	2,291		0.57	0.98	1.70	16.47		
Standish	74	38		2,588	2,036		0.74	1.21	2.10	22.09		
East Central	75	38	-3	2,679	2,113	2,363	0.76	1.19	2.23	18.42	15.74	2.70
Fennville	74	46		2,825	2,259		2.97	3.42	3.88	27.86		
Grand Rapids	77	47		3,102	2,507		0.75	1.65	2.13	24.15		
Holland	76	48		3,095	2,605		0.88	1.44	3.12	32.93		
South Bend, IN	79	49		3,166	2,644		0.30	0.68	1.69	21.66		
Watervliet	76	48		2,997	2,443		0.98	1.46	2.42	21.60		
Southwest	79	40	-2	2,981	2,458	2,573	1.03	1.55	2.49	23.57	18.12	3.26
Belding	74	40		2,733	2,198		0.62	1.68	2.12	18.77		
Coldwater	80	44		3,020	2,511		0.03	0.16	1.32	18.12		
Lansing	78	42		3,013	2,363		2.75	3.30	4.34	18.28		
South Central	80	40	-2	2,879	2,333	2,528	1.62	2.23	3.23	21.34	17.92	2.79
Detroit	81	50		3,241	2,694		1.49	1.89	2.04	21.23		
Flint	78	38		2,981	2,314		1.02	1.56	2.65	16.09		
Romeo	74	43		2,869	2,324		0.97	1.43	1.61	15.04		
Tipton	80	47		2,928	2,402		1.16	1.50	2.23	23.46		
Toledo, OH	80	45		3,219	2,698		0.55	0.90	1.29	22.39		
Southeast	82	36	-2	2,980	2,479	2,526	0.92	1.26	1.74	20.03	17.18	2.43

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.